



May 1998

Vol. 8 No. 5

# VOTING INFORMATION NEWS

A roundup of voting news from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) ✓ ✓ For voters, potential voters and those who assist voters.

Re-release of popular "Flag" spot

## 1998 Get-Out-the-Vote Campaign In Circulation

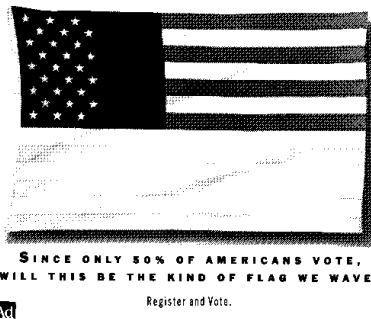
Public Service Announcements (PSAs) for the 1998 *Get-Out-the-Vote* Campaign will be distributed to TV, radio and print media outlets nationwide beginning on May 11, 1998. The PSAs are designed to motivate citizen participation in the 1998 state primaries and the general election on November 3, 1998. A second, nationwide distribution is scheduled for early August.

In 1998, TV, radio and print media materials will feature the very popular "Flag" spot first released in 1992 and again in 1994. The Campaign's patriotic appeal encourages participation by non-voters. The print version of the PSA, shown at right, portrays a symbolic "half-flag," representative of the 50% of eligible voters who chose not to participate in previous elections.

Campaign materials will be distributed to over 1500 TV stations, 7100 radio stations as well as major market cable networks and the Armed Forces Radio and Television Service. Print media materials will be distributed to over 8000 newspapers and weeklies and to the American Forces Press Service.

Out-of-home (OOH) materials such as

billboard and bus shelter posters will be disseminated to 500 companies specializing in OOH distribution. Materials for the OOH outlets will feature the 1996 Campaign theme: "Vote for your candidate, vote for your country, but most of all, vote for your-



**View the video version of this PSA on-line at [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov)!**

For the first time, Campaign banners featuring the print version of the Flag spot will be available on the World Wide Web. In addition, an on-line version of the TV spot can be viewed at the FVAP Web site at [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov) (under "Additional FVAP Resources.") The radio version will be avail-

able by calling the DoD Voting Information Center (VIC) on (703) 693-6500 or DSN 223-6500 or on any of the toll-free from overseas numbers provided in the *Voting Assistance Guide*.

The PSAs are an excellent resource for Voting Assistance Officers who are planning voter registration drives and other voter outreach efforts this year. The spots allow for **non-partisan** localization tags such as, "For more information on elections or registration contact the Board of Elections at . . ."

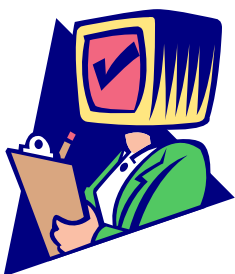
Because the PSAs are utilized by the media on a voluntary basis, we encourage you to contact the Public Service Director (PSDs) at your local TV or radio station and newspaper and urge them to run the spots often. Military VAOs must coordinate this with their installation Public Affairs Officer (PAO).

PSDs can obtain copies of the materials by contacting the Ad Council's Fulfillment Center at (800) 933-7727. VAOs can obtain copies of the materials by contacting their Voting Action Officer listed on page 4 of this newsletter.

Help *Get-Out-the-Vote* in '98!

Take the V-IQ Quiz at [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov)

**"How many states of legal voting residence can a UOCAVA citizen claim?"**



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This is one of many questions that make up the Federal Voting Assistance Program's (FVAP's) "**Voting Information Quotient (V-IQ) Challenge**" Quiz found under the "Learn About Voting" icon on the FVAP Home Page at [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov).

The "V-IQ Challenge" Quiz is an educational tool designed to provide you informal feedback regarding your knowledge of the absentee voting process as it applies to citizens voting under the *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)*-- members of the Uniformed Services, the merchant marine, their family members and all overseas

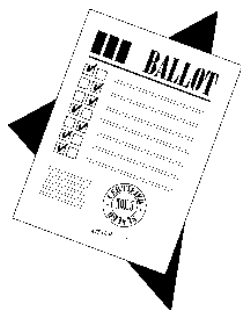
civilian citizens.

Voting Assistance Officers (VAOs), and all others interested in the process, are encouraged to take the Quiz after reviewing the FVAP's VAO "Training for Voting Assistance Officers," also available under the "Learn About Voting" icon. The Training presentation is provided in *MS PowerPoint* slide format. In previous years, the information covered in the presentation was available through video tapes and on-site workshops.

The Quiz is made up of twenty questions and three bonus questions of varying levels of difficulty. (see **Quiz**, pg. 2)

Consult the Guide for application procedures**24 Primaries Scheduled for May, June & July**

As the Calendar on page 3 of this newsletter shows, 24 states (*shown in italics*) have primaries for Federal offices and many statewide offices, including Governors' seats, scheduled in the months of May, June and July. The candidates chosen by voters in state primaries appear in the November 3 general election ballot. As a result, participation in state primaries is critical.



Citizens voting under the *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)* are eligible to participate in all elections for Federal offices and most state and local level offices by accurately completing and submitting a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) request for registration and ballot to their jurisdiction of voting residence.

However, you must submit your FPCA by the state deadline! Most locations require unregistered voters to submit their FPCA at least 30 days before the date of the election. However, because procedures vary from state to state, you should always consult the 1998-99 *Voting Assistance Guide* for details on how the process is handled in your jurisdiction.

*Guides*, FPCAs and other materials important to the process are available from Voting Assistance Officers in units of the Uniformed Services and Embassies/Consulates, organizations of overseas citizens and overseas corporations that employ U.S. citizens. Information is also available on-line at [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov).

(Quiz, from pg. 1) The questions are broadly divided into three topic areas: "The Absentee Voting Process," "Legal Residence" and "Civics & Government," and all cover issues of relevance to *UOCAVA* citizens and the VAOs that assist them.

The multiple choice Quiz can be taken on-line by clicking on the appropriate radio buttons provided. Your answers are submitted and automatically "graded" by clicking on the "Submit Quiz" at the bottom of the Quiz page. If you are not satisfied with your initial score, read through the FVAP's Web site material and other Web links relating to Civics & Government (some are provided under "Other Links") and try again. You can take the Quiz as often as you'd like!

The FVAP does not maintain records of who takes the Quiz and how they score. The Quiz is intended to provide VAOs with an entertaining and didactic way to test their knowledge of the absentee voting process.

And the answer to the question is: You can claim only one (1) state as your legal voting residence. Give yourself an extra point!

Voting Assistance Officers**"To Do" This Month**

[ ] Encourage participation in state primary elections. There are 24 such elections scheduled for May, June & July. Always encourage use of the *Voting Assistance Guide* for state-by-state details on how to register and obtain an absentee ballot.

[ ] Start planning for Overseas Citizens Voters Week (week of June 28, 1998) and Armed Forces Voters Week (week of August 30, 1998). Guidelines for events during these two important weeks will be featured in the next two issues of this newsletter.

[ ] Visit [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov) often for an on-line version of this newsletter (check under "Publications") and other information critical for carrying out your duties as a Voting Assistance Officer.

[ ] Review the on-line Training Workshop presentation for VAOs at the FVAP Web site. The information provided on-line supersedes the information previously provided on video tape and via FVAP training workshops.

Start planning for**Overseas Citizens Voters Week**

June 28-July 4, 1998



See *Guide's* Chapter 2  
& upcoming *VIN* for details.

**Federal Voting Assistance Program**

*Voting Information News* provides information for citizens and Voting Assistance Officers and is published monthly by the FVAP.

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**Note:** Copying or using *VIN* articles in other publications, etc. is encouraged.

*States with May, June & July primaries are shown in italics.*

# 1998 State Primary Election Calendar

State	State Primary Date	State Runoff Primary (if necessary)	Offices to be nominated for the General Election		
			FEDERAL		STATE
			U.S. Senator	U.S. Representative	Governor
<i>Alabama</i>	<i>June 2</i>	<i>June 30</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Alaska</i>	<i>August 25</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Yes</i>
American Samoa	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>September 8</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Arkansas</i>	<i>May 19</i>	<i>June 9</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>California</i>	<i>June 2</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>52</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Colorado</i>	<i>August 11</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Connecticut</i>	<i>September 15</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Delaware</i>	<i>September 12</i>	—	—	<i>1</i>	—
District of Columbia	<i>September 15</i>	—	—	<b>1 Delegate</b>	<b>(Mayor)</b>
<i>Florida</i>	<i>September 1</i>	<i>October 1</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Georgia</i>	<i>July 21</i>	<i>August 11</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Guam</i>	<i>September 5</i>	—	—	<i>1</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Hawaii</i>	<i>September 19</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Idaho</i>	<i>May 26</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Illinois</i>	<i>March 17</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Indiana</i>	<i>May 5</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>10</i>	—
<i>Iowa</i>	<i>June 2</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Kansas</i>	<i>August 4</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Kentucky</i>	<i>May 26</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>6</i>	—
<i>Louisiana</i>	<i>October 3</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>7</i>	—
<i>Maine</i>	<i>June 9</i>	—	—	<i>2</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Maryland</i>	<i>September 15</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Massachusetts</i>	<i>September 15</i>	—	—	<i>10</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Michigan</i>	<i>August 4</i>	—	—	<i>16</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Minnesota</i>	<i>September 15</i>	—	—	<i>8</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mississippi</i>	<i>June 2</i>	<i>June 23</i>	—	<i>5</i>	—
<i>Missouri</i>	<i>August 4</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>9</i>	—
<i>Montana</i>	<i>June 2</i>	—	—	<i>1</i>	—
<i>Nebraska</i>	<i>May 12</i>	—	—	<i>3</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Nevada</i>	<i>September 1</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>New Hampshire</i>	<i>September 8</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>New Jersey</i>	<i>June 2</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>13</i>	—
<i>New Mexico</i>	<i>June 2</i>	—	—	<i>3</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>New York</i>	<i>September 15</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>31</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>North Carolina</i>	<i>May 5</i>	<i>June 2</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>12</i>	—
<i>North Dakota</i>	<i>June 9</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>1</i>	—
<i>Ohio</i>	<i>May 5</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Oklahoma</i>	<i>August 25</i>	<i>September 15</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Oregon</i>	<i>May 19</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Pennsylvania</i>	<i>May 19</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>Yes</i>
Puerto Rico	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Rhode Island</i>	<i>September 15</i>	—	—	<i>2</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>South Carolina</i>	<i>June 9</i>	<i>June 23</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>South Dakota</i>	<i>June 2</i>	<i>June 16</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Tennessee</i>	<i>August 6</i>	—	—	<i>9</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Texas</i>	<i>March 10</i>	<i>April 14</i>	—	<i>30</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Utah</i>	<i>June 23</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>3</i>	—
<i>Vermont</i>	<i>September 8</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Virgin Islands</i>	<i>September 8</i>	—	—	<i>1</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Virginia</i>	<i>June 9</i>	—	—	<i>11</i>	—
<i>Washington</i>	<i>September 15</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>9</i>	—
<i>West Virginia</i>	<i>May 12</i>	—	—	<i>3</i>	—
<i>Wisconsin</i>	<i>September 8</i>	—	<i>Yes</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Wyoming</i>	<i>August 18</i>	—	—	<i>1</i>	<i>Yes</i>

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Please share this copy of VIN with others.

One for each Uniformed Service & the Department of State

## Know Your Voting Action Officer



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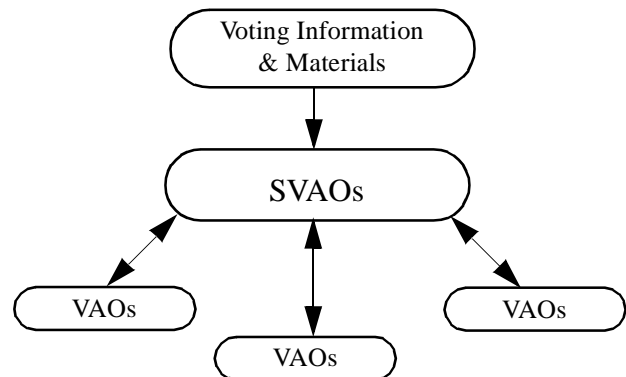


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State Department and Uniformed Service Voting Action Officers (SVAOs) work within the Departments of State, Army, Navy, and Air Force and the Marine Corps and the Coast Guard to facilitate the duties of Voting Assistance Officers (VAOs) at Embassies/Consulates and in military units worldwide. They are knowledgeable of the particular internal communications and distribution channels of their organizations and, for this reason, play a critical role in the voting assistance chain. As the diagram illustrates, SVAOs are an important resource for VAOs.

If a VAO has a question about obtaining supplies, or about the voting process in general, which he or she cannot answer locally, or by visiting the Federal Voting Assistance Program's (FVAP's) site on the Web ([www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov)), the next recourse is the SVAO for his or her particular organization. For example, if a VAO is having difficulties obtaining supplies of the Federal Post Card Application or the *Voting Assistance Guide*, or any of the other materials necessary to carry out his or her duties effectively, the SVAO should be contacted.



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